

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT**

Public Servants – Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department -- Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, then Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District now Panchayat Secretary, Banjapally, Nizamsagar Mandal who was trapped by the ACB officials on 19.11.2014, when she demanded and accepted an amount of Rs.4,000/- as bribe amount from the complainant for showing official favour- Disciplinary Proceedings initiated against under Rule 20 of Telangana State Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 – Article of charge – Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 732

Dated: 23-11-2017

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ORDER:-

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, the then Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District now Panchayat Secretary, Banjapally, Nizamsagar Mandal who was trapped by the ACB officials on 19.11.2014, when she demanded and accepted an amount of Rs.4,000/- as bribe amount from the complainant for showing official favour in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Telangana State Civil Services (CC & A) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the enquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of article of charge and imputation of misconduct in support of article of charge as Annexure-I . A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the article of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure-II, III and IV).

3. Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, then Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District now Panchayat Secretary, Banjapally, Nizamsagar Mandal is directed to submit within ten (10) days of the receipt of this order, a written statement of her defence.

4. Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District, is informed that an enquiry will be held only in respect of those article of charge as are not admitted. She should, therefore, specifically admit or deny the each article of charge.

5. Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, then Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District now Panchayat Secretary, Banjapally, Nizamsagar Mandal is further informed that if she does not submit her written statement of defence on or before the date specified in Para-3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available.

6. Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District, is invited to the Rule 24 of the Telangana State Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest in respect of matters pertaining to her service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings, it will be presumed that Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District, is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at her instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Telangana State Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

7. The receipt of the G.O. shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

**VIKAS RAJ
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(FAC)**

To

Smt. Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, Panchayat Secretary, Dharpally Gram Panchayath of Nizamabad District through the Commissioner, PR&RE, Hyderabad [we].

The Commissioner, Panchayat Raj & Rural Employment, Hyderabad. (with a request to serve and return the dated acknowledged).

Copy to:-

The Director General, ACB, Hyderabad.

The Vigilance Commissioner,

Telangana Vigilance Commission, Hyderabad.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT.SULTANPURKAR SANDHYA RANI, W/O LATE ORCHU SRINIVAS RAO, AGE:45 YRS, OCC:PANCHAYAT SECRETARY, G.P. DHARPALLY VILLAGE & MANDAL OF NIZAMABAD DISTRICT.

That Smt.Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, W/o late Orchu Srinivas Rao, age:45yrs, occ:Panchayat Secretary, G.P. Dharpally of Nizamabad District, joined in Govt. Service as Village Development Officer(W) Gr.II on 02.07.1997. She was promoted as Village Development Officer(W) Gr.I. She worked as Panchayath Secretary, Gr.I Dharpally Mandal of Nizamabad district from 17.7.2012 (date of posting) to 19.11.2014 (date of trap). While she was functioning as Govt.Servant she had committed grave misconduct in as much as that.

She demanded and accepted bribe amount of Rs.4,000/- from the complainant on 19.11.2014 in the O/o Gram Panchayat, Dharpally for doing official favour i.e to issue name change certificate pertaining to the house bearing No.2-56. The sodium carbonate test conducted on both the hands fingers also tested positive and the tainted amount was recovered from her hand bag. Thus she committed misconduct, devotion of her duty in maintaining absolute integrity, unbecoming being a public servant and the act place her official position under embarrassment and thereby violated the Rules 3 (1), (2), (3) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus Smt.S.Sandhya Rani, Panchayath Secretary by her above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct unbecoming of a Govt. Servant and thereby violation Rules 3(1),(2),(3) of APCS(Conduct) Rules, 1964.

VIKAS RAJ
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(FAC)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT.SULTANPURKAR SANDHYA RANI, W/O LATE ORCHU SRINIVAS RAO, AGE:45 YRS, OCC:PANCHAYAT SECRETARY, G.P. DHARPALLY OF NIZAMABAD DISTRICT.

That Smt Sultanpurkar Sandhya Rani, W/o Late Orchu Srinivas Rao, Panchayat Secretary, G.P. Dharpally & Mandal of Nizamabad district. Her date of birth is 02.09.1969. She joined Govt Service as Village Development Officer (W) Gr.II on 02.07.1997. She was promoted as Village Development Officer (W) Gr.I. She worked as Panchayath Secretary, Gr.I Dharpally village & Mandal of Nizamabad district from 17.07.2012(date of posting) to 19.11.2014 (date of trap). Her date of attaining superannuation is 31.07.2027. She is here in after referred to as charged Officer(C.O)

Allegations:

“That the charged officer while functioning as Panchayat Secretary, Gr.I Dharpally Mandal of Nizamabad District from 17.7.2012 (date of posting) to 19.11.2014(date of trap) she has committed grave misconduct in as much as on 18-11-2014 at 11.00 hours the complainant Md.Abdul Ashraf Bee, W/o Abdul Azeez aged 31 yrs, Occ:Beedi roller R/o H.No.2-56, Dharpally village & Mandal of Nizamabad district came to the office of DSP ACB Nizamabad and lodged a complaint written in telugu, stating that there is house bearing No.2-56 on the name of her father in law Sri Goremiya, in Dharpally village. Her father-in-law died long back, since the she and her husband's brother were residing in different portions of the said house. On 9.9.2014 she submitted a petition to the Gram Panchayat Secretary(Smt. S.Sandhya Rani) with a request to mutate the portion of the house No.2-56 in which they are residing in her husbands name. On that the Gram Panchayat Secretary told her to come after(10) days. Accordingly after (10) days she went to the Gram panchayat Office, met with Smt S.Sandhya Rani, Panchayat Secretary but she was dragging the matter unnecessarily. On 17.11.2014 she again met Smt S.Sandhya Rani, Gram Panchayat Secretary and requested to issue name change certificate, on which Smt S.Sandhya Rani, G.P. Secretary demanded Rs.6000/- as bribe for doing the work and warned that if she failed to give the bribe she will not issue the ownership certificate. She expressed her inability to give that much of bribe and pleaded the GP secretary. On that the C.O reduced the bribe amount to Rs.4,000/- and told her to come to the G.P office on 19.11.2014 around 11.00 A.M along with bribe amount and give the bribe amount to her and take the name change certificate.

As the complainant was not willing to give the bribe amount to the C.O. She got scribed the petition by her father S.K Mohammad as she does not know to write, came to ACB office and filed complaint requesting to take necessary legal action against the C.O for demanding bribe to do her official work.

On receipt of the above complaint the DSP, ACB, got confidential enquiries made regarding the genuineness of the contents of the complaint and the reputation of the C.O and a case in Cr.No.21/RCT-ACB-NZB/2014; U/s 7 of PC Act of 1988 was registered on 19.11.2014 at 7.45 hours after obtaining permission from the competent authority and took up the investigation.

During the course of investigation, after completing the pre trap proceedings a trap was laid against the Charged Officer on 19.11.2014 at around 10.35 hours when she demanded and accepted bribe amount of Rs.4000/- from the complainant for doing official favour i.e to issue name change certificate in the name of husband of the complainant.

During the course of post trap proceedings, chemical test was conducted on the both hand fingers of the charged officer which yielded positive results.

When questioned charged officer whether she accepted any bribe amount from anybody before the arrival of ACB trap party, she stated that, before the arrival of ACB trap party she demanded and accepted an amount of Rs.4000/- as bribe from the complainant to do mutation of portion of house No.2-56 in the name of husband of the complainant Abdul Azeez and to issue name change certificate. She further stated that she took the bribe amount with her right hand, counted the bribe amount with both hands and kept the same in her hand bag. The DSP asked the charged Officer to show the bribe amount. The charged officer took out currency notes of 500 denominations from the opened front pocket of her yellow coloured leather hand bag which was kept on office table in front of her and produced before the DSP. On the instructions of DSP the woman mediator No.1 took the bribe amount, verified the amount and found Rs.4000/- i.e. 8

currency notes of 500 denomination and also compared and verified the currency notes numbers with the numbers which were noted in the pre trap proceedings and tallied.

The DSP got sodium carbonate solution prepared in another glass tumbler, swapped the inner line of the front opened pocket of leather hand bag of the AO with cotton swabs which came in contact with tainted bribe amount and dipped into the glass tumbler containing colourless sodium carbonate solution and the test also yielded positive result.

The tainted bribe amount of Rs.4000/- and the yellow colour leather hand bag of the charged officer were seized duly attested by the mediators for the purpose of further investigation.

The following relevant records which were produced by the Charged Officer were verified and seized duly attested by the mediators for further investigation.

1. Attendace register of GP Dharpally:

It is being maintained for the year 2014. The name of the AO S.Sandhya Rani, is noted in Sl.No.1 and she did not sign against her name on 18-11-2014 and 19-11-2014.

2. Revision register of GP Dharpally:

The house bearing No.2-56 belongs to Goremiya is noted on page No.32. As per the entry made the tax of the house is fixed Rs.526 which includes all taxes.

3. Property tax demand register for the years 2014-2015:

As per the tax demand register, the House No.2-56 belongs to Gore Miya the father –in-law of the complainant R/o Dharpally is noted in assessment no. 570 and the total tax amount of Rs.1016/- was paid on 17-11-2014 vide receipt No.5866.

4. Taxes Receipt book:

The receipt book is being maintained in a printed book for the years 2014-2015 from receipt No 5801 to 5900. The last receipt issued is number 5868. As per the receipt book House tax Rs.1016/- of house No.2-56 belongs to Gore Miya, father –in-law of the complainant was paid vide receipt No.5866, but date was not mentioned on the receipt book. On verifying the receipt book there are no dates of issue of receipt from receipt No. 5831 to 5868. When questioned the AO the reasons for not mentioning the dates, she kept mum. As per the receipt Nos.5803 and 5808 previously Rs.500/- towards mutation fee was collected and issued receipts to the concerned.

5. Movement register of Panchayat Secretary:

This register is maintained till 7th July 2014 and thereafter there is no entry of movement. When questioned by the DSP the reasons for not maintaining the register.

Later the DSP questioned C.O the reasons for not signing in the attendance register, the C.O stated that day before she did not attend the office hence she did not sign in the register. She further stated that on 19-11-2014 she was to go to attend some other work as instructed by the MPDO, but she came to the Gram panchayat office to meet the complainant to receive the bribe amount as demanded by her for doing mutation of house No.2-56.

The original attendance registers and tax receipt book were seized duly attested by the mediators for the purpose of investigation. Also taken the photo stat/Xerox copy of Revision register, property tax demand register and movement register and seized the photo stat copies duly attested by the mediators and the DSP and the original revision register, property tax demand register and movement register were handed over to the junior Assistant B.Ramulu, so as to not to cause any inconvenience.

The DSP, ACB examined and recorded the statements of witnesses mention the names and the charged officer was arrested on 19-11-2014 at 14:25 hours after explaining the grounds of arrest and she was sent for judicial remand.

During the course of investigation service particulars of the charged officer together with information regarding submission of APRs by the charged officer were collected from Dist. Panchayat Officer. As per the information furnished by the district Panchayat Officer vide Lr.No.ROC No.B1/573/2014 (PTS) dt.16.12.2014 the charged officer has failed to submit her Annual Property returns to the competent authority from her date of joining to date of trap i.e 19-11-2014.

Thus the charged officer by her above mentioned acts had committed grave misconduct in devotion of her duty, maintaining absolute integrity, and her behavior unbecoming and the act place her official position under embarrassment and thereby violated the Rules 3(1) (2) (3) of APCS conduct rules 1964.

Thus the charged officer had therefore rendered herself liable for regular departmental action for major penalty.

VIKAS RAJ
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(FAC)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-III

LIST OF WITNESSES:

- 1.** Smt .Md.Abdul Ashraf Bee W/o Abdul Azeez aged 31 yrs, Occ.Beedi roller R/o H.No.2-56, Dharpally village & mandal of Nizamabad District.
- 2.** Sri Batharolla Ramulu S/o NInganna aged 58 yrs, Occ.Jr. Asst O/o Gram Panchayat Dharpally H/o H.No.4-52, Unnaipets, Sirikonda Mandal of Nizamabad.
- 3.** Sri Kagitala Ameeruddin S/o Abdul Ghani aged 68 yrs, occ. Ward member R/o H.No.1-130, Dharpally village & Mandal of Nizamabad Dist.
- 4.** Sri Vankadoth Ganapathi S/o Poma aged 43 yrs, MPDO Dharpally R/o Aryanagar, Nizamabad.
- 5.** Sri Karka Ganga Reddy S/o Ganga Ram aged 41 yrs occ. Sarpanch Darpally R/o Darpally, Nizamabad District.
- 6.** Sri Addala Srikanth S/o Sahadevudu aged 49 yrs, occ.Divisional Level Panchayat Officer, Nizamabad division R/o H.No.244/B, Sri Rajeshwari Nilayam, Sri Sreenivasapuram colony, Vanasthalipuram, Hyderabad.
- 7.** Smt. Sirnapally Sujatha, W/o Gangadhar, age.35 yrs, occ. 5th ward member Dharpally (V&M) Nizamabad district.
- 8.** Sri S.K Mohammad S/o Rasool age.60 yrs, occ. Rtd:Head Post Man R/o Chincholi(B) Sarangapur mandal Adilabad District.
- 9.** Smt Ankam Ambika W/o D.Srinivas aged 32 yrs Occ. Assistant Executive Engineer (R&B) Section, Nizamabad r/o H.No.6-8-73, Namdevwada, Nizamabad(Mediator).
- 10.** Sri K. Shiva Kumar s/o K. Shankar Rao, aged 34 yrs, occ.Jr.Asst O/o Executive Engineer (R&B) Division, Nizamabad R/o H.No.10-5-437, opp. Water tank, Big Bazar, Nizamabad district.(mediator).
- 11.** Sri M.Krishna Murthy, District Panchayat Officer, Nizamabad
- 12.** Sri N.Sanjeeva Rao, Dy.Supdt. of police, ACB Nizamabad district.
- 13.** Sri D.Chandra Shekar Reddy, ACB Nizamabad district.
- 14.** Sri R.Raghunath, Inspector, ACB Nizamabad district.

VIKAS RAJ
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(FAC)

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SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-IV

List of Documents:

1. Complaint dt.18.11.2014 given by the complainant.
2. F.I.R in Cr.No.21/RCT-ACB/NZB/2014, dt.19-11-2014
3. Mediators report-I
4. Mediators report-II
5. Made-Up file containing official favour document.
6. Statement of the complainant recorded U/S 164 Cr.P.C
7. Service particulars of charged officer furnished by District Panchayat Officer vide ROC No.B1/573/2014, dt.16-12-2014.
8. Attendance Register of GP Dharpally
9. Copy of Revision Register of GP Dharpally
10. Copy of property tax demand register for the years 2014-2015
11. Taxes Receipt book.
12. Copy of Movement register of Panchayat Secretary.

Note. Any other documents if any required may be examined.

VIKAS RAJ
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(FAC)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER